

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 330

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the accession of Taiwan to the World Trade Organization (WTO).

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 19, 2000

Mr. STEARNS submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the accession of Taiwan to the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Whereas Taiwan's economy is the 20th largest economy in the world;

Whereas Taiwan is represented in 149 countries;

Whereas Taiwan is an active member of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC);

Whereas over 20 percent of Taiwan's imports consist of United States goods representing the 8th largest market for United States exports;

Whereas on January 1, 1990, Taiwan applied to become a contracting party to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) as a customs territory similar to Hong Kong's accession on April 23, 1986;

Whereas on September 29, 1992, Taiwan's application was accepted by the GATT and a Working Party was established to begin membership negotiations;

Whereas in February 1998, Taiwan completed a landmark bilateral World Trade Organization (WTO) agreement with the United States providing market access for United States goods and services;

Whereas in May 1998, pursuant to the bilateral agreement with the United States, Taiwan proceeded to lower tariffs on more than 1,000 items; and

Whereas Taiwan has completed bilateral negotiations with all 26 WTO member countries requesting such negotiations and Taiwan's membership in the WTO is required to ensure full implementation and benefits of these agreements: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that the ex-
 3 tension of nondiscriminatory treatment to the products of
 4 the People's Republic of China (pursuant to the termi-
 5 nation of the application of title IV of the Trade Act of
 6 1974 to such products) should only be effective beginning
 7 on or after the date on which a vote is taken by the World
 8 Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Conference re-
 9 garding the Decision and Protocol of Accession for Chi-
 10 nese Taipei (Taiwan), or the effective date of the accession
 11 by the People's Republic of China to the WTO, whichever
 12 occurs later.